

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Traffic Operations Center - Primary Road Fund

Purpose and Background

The Traffic Operations Center (TOC) coordinates traffic operations on the Primary Highway System in Iowa to maintain normal traffic flow. The TOC manages traffic events from a centralized location currently in Ames. Examples of managed events include accidents, traffic congestion related to construction and maintenance or special events, flooding, and snow and ice removal operations. Emergency transportation operations are also coordinated from the TOC, as is the 511 Travel Information System. TOC management actions include: operation of electronic signage, identifying detours, communication with the DOT and law enforcement field staff, and public and media press releases.

During the 2014 Legislative Session, the DOT requested a one-time appropriation to relocate the TOC from Ames to the Motor Vehicle Division building on Ankeny. Space for the new location will be renovated and provide secure access, back-up power generation and increased space and access to law enforcement personnel and Motor Vehicle Enforcement (MVE). In addition, the appropriation will provide new communication equipment. The DOT will maintain the existing Ames TOC as a back-up location.

Funding History

The General Assembly appropriated \$703,000 for FY 2014 from the Primary Road Fund to relocate the TOC. This appropriation is intended to be a one-time expense. The TOC operational expenses are funded by annual appropriations to the DOT Highway Division for administration.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [307](#)

[761](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [1](#)

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More Information

Iowa DOT Highway Division Office of Maintenance: <http://www.iowadot.gov/systemsoperations/index.htm>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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